



FAQ Sheet

What programs are available?

We offer The Professional Photography Program (PP), The Written Image Program (WI) and the Advanced Visual Communications Program (AVC). Please go to our programs page for further detailed information.

What are the entrance requirements?

For the Professional Photography and Written Image programs, grade XII graduation or Mature student status (over 19 years of age) is the fundamental requirement for admission. Quebec Students Only (BC grade 12 equivalence = 1st year CEGEP English 603 Series). You do not require a portfolio or previous experience.

To view entrance requirements for Advanced Visual Communications, Please go to the Advanced Visual Communications calendar.

How much is the tuition for the programs?

<i>Advanced Visual Communications</i>	<i>\$11,750.00</i>
<i>Professional Photography</i>	<i>\$14,500.00</i>
<i>Written Image</i>	<i>\$14,500.00</i>

What other costs are there?

DAMAGE DEPOSIT:

A \$200 damage deposit payable to the Western Academy is required at the beginning of the program. The deposit ensures student responsibility and will only be used if damages to school equipment or facilities are incurred. This deposit is partially refundable upon completion of the program.

TEXT & MATERIALS FEE:

All Students (except AVC) will pay a set fee of \$1,500.00 that will cover the cost of textbooks, software, a printing allowance of \$350.00, field trip accommodation and the government required student file management items. (The fee for AVC students is under review due to changes in text requirements. It is estimated at \$300.00 as no software is required).

How do I apply?

Please view the program calendar in which you are interested. On the web site you will find an application form. Fill out this form, print it and submit along with your tuition deposit of \$500.00.

Is Western Academy an accredited School?

We are registered and accredited with the (PCTIA) Private Career Training Institutions Agency. For further information please go to www.pctia.bc.ca or our general calendar

How do I contact someone from your school?

Please call Toll Free at 1-866-889-1235 (Canada & U.S.A.) or Long Distance at 1[250] 383-1522 or E-mail us at wap-office@shaw.ca

How do I get a student loan?

In the general calendar, you will find each Province's contact information, as well as a link to their student loans website. Please note, courses and hours are designed to meet student loan criteria. You may require the following information for student loan purposes.

Please find below information you may require for Student Loan, HRSDC &/or RESP purposes.		
Course	Start Date	End Date
Advanced Visual Communications	September 5, 2012	June 20, 2013
Professional Photography		
Written Image		
Christmas Break - Last day of Classes December 20, 2012 - first day of classes January 7, 2013.		
Minimum 21 hours/ week of class/ lab & field work - 42 weeks (Accredited by PCTIA)		

Payment Schedule			AVC	PP	WI
	Deposit		\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	June 1st		\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	September 5th		\$7,500.00	\$7,750.00	\$7,750.00
	January 5th		\$2,750.00	\$4,750.00	\$4,750.00
	TOTAL		\$11,750.00	\$14,500.00	\$14,500.00
Texts, Software & Materials			\$300.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Damage Deposit			\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Equipment estimate			\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Supplies					
Estimate	Start-up		\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	approx. /per month		\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Portfolio estimate			\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00
Graduation estimate			\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00

How do I pay for my course?

The Western Academy of Photography accepts payment (in Canadian Funds) in the form of cheques, money orders, certified cheques, cash as well as payments from student loans, passport to education, and other funding agencies. In special circumstances, we will accept payment (by permission of the Managing Director) by paypal. This method may only be used for the tuition deposit.

How long are the programs?

All three programs are 10 months in length and start every September. They run inclusively until June, of the following year. Programs are equivalent to a 2-year diploma.

How many are accepted into the programs?

The AVC course accepts up to a maximum of 15 positions, the Professional Photography accepts up to a maximum of 44 positions, which is divided into two smaller groups of 22 and then further divided into smaller labs. The Written Image accepts up to a maximum of 16 positions. These courses fill up quite early and as a result, we do use a waitlist.

What are the school hours?

Actual classes run from:

Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. PST

During the school year, the hours are as follows:

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. PST & we are CLOSED Saturday & Sunday. We observe all Statutory Holidays. After graduation, the hours will change. Please check our website for posted summer hours.

What housing resources are available?

Western Academy recommends the following in your search for accommodation. Saanich NEWS, Times Colonist, Victoria NEWS, Goldstream NEWS Gazette, Oakbay NEWS, Sooke NEWS Mirror, or www.about.com. There you will find local listings of possible accommodations.

Is there parking at the school?

We are located in beautiful downtown Victoria, and as a result are limited to a 2-hour interval parking restriction.

Where do I obtain a Bus Pass?

Monthly bus passes may be obtained from most local grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations. Please go to BC Transit for further information regarding costs, routes, zones ...etc.

Where is WAP located?

*You may see a map, as well as directions by clicking on the previous word map, or copying and pasting the following URL into your address bar of your browser:
<http://www.google.ca/maps?q=Western+Academy+of+Photography+%2B+Victoria%2C+BC&btnG=Search&sll=49.891235%2C-97.153690&sspn=37.536366%2C71.894531&f=q&hl=en&cid=48428040,-123356467,1103744639635887004&li=Imd&z=3>*

How do I arrange for a tour of the school?

To arrange for a tour of the facilities, please call the toll free number below, two weeks in advance. Please leave your name, phone number and email address with the program manager for the program you are interested in. They in turn will call and make arrangements with you directly.

<i>Andrea Kucherawy - AVC & Professional Photography</i>	<i>1-866-889-1235 (Canada & USA)</i>	<i>Ext. 23</i>
<i>Garry Dodds - Written Image</i>		<i>Ext. 22</i>

What do we need the first day of school?

All you need is a pen, pencil and a pad of paper during orientation week, which begins the first day you attend school. Please do not bring your gear to school. You will meet with the staff and view facilities and equipment. Recommendations will be made to help you in purchasing cameras, tripods, light meters and other materials needed in the course.

All Programs are digital.